

In Re Patent Application of:
LAWTON ET AL.
Serial No: **10/669,097**
Filing Date: **SEPTEMBER 23, 2003**

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Please replace all previous versions of the claims with the following listing:

1. (Original) A method for determining MAC address for a remote device having a known, unique DEK in a network where devices may not send a confirmation to a *SetNEK* request, the method comprising the steps of:

 preparing a broadcast message with a *SetNEK* request containing a unique, temporary *NEK*;

 encrypting the message with the DEK of the remote device;

 transmitting the broadcast message on a network medium;

 confirming receipt of the temporary *NEK* by sending a request that requires a response from the remote device which is encrypted with the temporary *NEK*; and

 determining the MAC address of the remote device from the response.

2. (Currently Amended) The method of Claim 1 wherein the remote device is being added to a logical network having a local *NEK*~~not a member of a network.~~

3. (Original) The method of Claim 2 further comprising the step of using the MAC

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address of the remote device in a unicast transmission to reliably confirm receipt of the temporary *NEK*.

4. (Original) The method of Claim 3 further comprising the step of using the MAC address of the remote device in a unicast transmission containing a *SetNEK* message with the local *NEK*.

5. (Original) The method of Claim 4 further comprising the step of using the MAC address of the remote device in an additional unicast transmission which is encrypted with the local *NEK*, for purposes of confirming receipt of the local *NEK*.

6. (Cancelled)

7. (Original) The method recited in Claim 1, wherein the network is a powerline network.

8. (Original) The method recited in Claim 1, wherein the remote devices are implemented according to the HomePlug Powerline Alliance standard.

9. (Original) The method of Claim 1 wherein the request is a request statistics MME

and the response is a statistic response MME.

10. (Original) The method of Claim 1 wherein the request is a request channel estimation MME and the response is a channel estimation response.

11. (New) A method for adding a remote device to a logical network on a network medium, the method comprising:

transmitting a first broadcast message over the network medium, the first broadcast message having a first *SetNEK* request with a unique, temporary *NEK* and being encrypted with a *DEK* of the remote device;

transmitting a second broadcast message over the network medium, the second broadcast message requiring a first response from the remote device and being encrypted with the unique, temporary *NEK*;

determining a MAC address of the remote device by receiving the first response and extracting the MAC address;

transmitting a second *SetNEK* request with a local *NEK* for the logical network to the remote device;

transmitting a unicast message directly to the remote device using the MAC address, the unicast message requiring a second response from the remote device and being encrypted with the local *NEK*; and

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confirming that the remote device has been added to the logical network based on receipt of the second response.

12. (New) The method of Claim 11, wherein the second *SetNEK* request is transmitted directly to the remote device using the MAC address in another unicast message.